Encyclopaedia Aristasiana

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Trent

Trent is the largest of the five Western Provinces of Aristasia, bordering the other four. It is regarded as the central province of the Westrenne Empire. Sai Thamë (pronounced *Tah-may*) is the tutelary Angel of Trent. Queen Eleanor is the ruler of the province.

The Trentish anthem begins:

Raise your voice and glorify Trintitia,
The golden center of the world;
Raise your voice and glorify Trintitia,
Her banners are unfurled.
We are the daughters of Trintitia,
We shall forever sing her praise.
Raise your voice and glorify Trintitia,
Down all the length of days.

Trent is looked upon as a centre of fashion and sophistication, especially by the more "home-like" Quirinelle.

The usual adjectives are Trentish and Trintitian.

Places in Trent

Trintitiana: The Capital of Trent

Ladyton: the capital of the Celestial Empire, situated on the borders of Trent, Vintesse and Novaria

Milchford: home of the great Western university

Maybridge: a town in south-east Trent, near the Novarian border

Marywater: a country town in south-west Trent

Alusinhe: a town near the western border

Correspondences

Element: Earth ; Metal: Tin ; Number: 3

Tellurian Analogies: 1930s ; Jupiter

The Flag of Trent

The flag of Trent consists of a gold fleur-de-lys on a blue field edged with a gold frame toward the perimeter.

Blue is the colour of Sai Thamë, and blue-and-gold her most characteristic combination of colours.

The fleur-de-lys or fleur-de-luce (flower of light) is a very ancient motif with connexion both to the lotus and the Tree of Life. In many representations the Lotus is the Throne of Dea and some interpretations of the Trentish flower see the central petal as Dea standing upright amidst the petals: the Jewel in the Lotus.

The divine lotus also represents the flowering of manifestation upon the waters of all-possiblity (prakriti); and thus the entire ordering of the manifest world: all these themes are fundamental to our understanding of the Royal Janya, Sai Thamë who is the ruler of all harmony and order in the Divine-centred universe.

The central petal may be seen as the divine Ray itself striking the waters whereupon manifestation is represented by the two outer petals. This reflects the image of Dea standing upright upon the lotus, as is often seen in depictions of Sri Mahalakshmi. This symbolism depicts the number 3 as 1+2 — that is, the Divine Principle, which is singular, giving rise to all the dualities of manifestation.

The association of the Trentish flower with the primordial Tree is also significant. In the West Sai, Thamë is associated with the Archetypal Tree, the Oak (our very word "tree" comes from a word meaning "oak"). In the Far East, the Day of Sai Thamë, Thursday, is ruled by the "element" of Wood (interestingly, just as wood is the only organic "element" in the Eastern system, so the flag of Trent is the only Aristasian flag to bear an organic device).

The framing or bounding of the blue field with gold indicates the "pale of civilisation", the proper boundary within which the Empire rules and beyond which lies the barbarism of the Outlander, and, metaphysically, the Outer Darkness.

The Trentish flag is thus the flag of Royalty and order, as befits the central nation of the Westrenne Empire.

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